

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION – GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

PURPOSE

The Intergovernmental Coordination element identifies units of government and other agencies that have, or should have, mechanisms of coordination to implement the elements of the Comprehensive Plan. This element provides a formal set of goals, objectives and policies (GOP), which are adopted to maintain and foster intergovernmental coordination.

All references to any ordinances, statutes or regulations contained herein shall, unless otherwise noted, be deemed to be those in effect as of the date of adoption of this element and thereafter as amended, renumbered or otherwise revised.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

ICE GOAL 1: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

Maintain or enhance the level of coordination and cooperation among the various governments, authorities and agencies making decisions affecting natural resources, housing, historic and archaeological resources, public facilities, and public services within and around the County.

ICE Objective 1.1: Implementation Coordination

To coordinate the implementation of this Plan as it relates to the County with the City of Punta Gorda, Charlotte County Public Schools, the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO, and other units of local government, such as independent districts, the comprehensive plans of adjacent municipalities and counties, and privately owned utilities serving Charlotte County.

ICE Policy 1.1.1: Dispute Resolution

The County shall be an active participant in the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) Technical Advisory Committee, and participate in the Regional Dispute Resolution Program should it become appropriate as an institutional mechanism for addressing issues affecting local governments and those having regional significance. This process shall conform to the mandates of Chapter 186.509, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

ICE Policy 1.1.2: Consistency with Other Elements

The County shall adhere to the Updated Interlocal Agreement for Coordinated Planning and School Concurrency in effect with the City of Punta Gorda and the School Board of Charlotte County to, at a minimum:

1. Ensure consistency between school facility construction plans and the planning of related public facilities and infrastructure through the Capital Improvements element and the Future Land Use element;
2. Coordinate local land use plans, school facility capacity, population projections, development trends and locational planning necessary to support the needs of current and future student populations. The County, City and School District staff (Staff Working Group) will meet as needed, but no less than annually, to discuss these issues and formulate recommendations prior to any party making a decision that could impact on the areas of concern of the other parties;
3. Ensure consistency between the Natural Resources element and Coastal Planning element of this plan, particularly the disaster mitigation component, and school location and design. The use of new school facilities as hurricane evacuation shelters shall be pursued in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the County and regional shelter location and design policies; and
4. Maximize the potential for the collocation and joint uses of public facilities, including the use of public school facilities for recreational, cultural and civic purposes in accordance with the Recreation and Open Space element.

ICE Policy 1.1.3: Coordination with Punta Gorda

The County shall notify the City of Punta Gorda at the time of application for initial staff review of plan amendments, rezonings, subdivisions, site plan approvals, and conditional use permits affecting shared boundaries and shall notify the City of development proposals within the Prairie and Shell Creek Watershed Study Area, as depicted on FLUM Series Map #4: Watershed Overlay District, to provide the City with an opportunity to offer meaningful input. The City of Punta Gorda is requested to reciprocate by extending the same courtesy to the County.

ICE Policy 1.1.4: Mutual Aid Agreements

The County shall maintain, and expand as appropriate, procedures and agreements for coordination with independent districts. These include arrangements such as mutual aid agreements between the Charlotte County Fire/EMS Department, independent fire districts and the Punta Gorda Fire Department. These arrangements shall be expanded to include ongoing communications between independent fire districts, utility districts and the County concerning the impact of land use planning on the need for services and facilities in those districts.

ICE Policy 1.1.5: Conservation

The County shall develop and maintain a land acquisition process in conjunction with adjacent counties and municipalities and in cooperation with property owners as well as resource management agencies such as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Water Management Districts. Methods may include the development of multi-jurisdictional mitigation banks or parks; the creation of greenways and preserves that cross jurisdictional boundaries; and the establishment of resource conservation plans and management agreements with private landowners to ensure the long term presence of viable populations of wildlife and habitats.

ICE Policy 1.1.6: Consistency with State and Regional Plans

The County shall evaluate amendments to the local Comprehensive Plan for consistency with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan and the State Growth Management Plan.

ICE Policy 1.1.7: Conflict Mediation

The County shall continue to fully utilize regular Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council Technical Advisory Committee meetings and the Intergovernmental Clearing House Review process for intergovernmental communication and conflict mediation.

ICE Policy 1.1.8: Annexation

The County shall facilitate annexation of areas by municipalities consistent with the provisions of Chapter 171, F.S. County staff shall review the annexation reports prepared by City of Punta Gorda staff, participate in the joint quarterly meetings, exchange technical information, and attend appropriate public meetings concerning potential annexations.

ICE Policy 1.1.9: Utility Coordination

The County shall establish ongoing procedures and regular communication mechanisms with privately owned utilities supplying centralized potable water and sanitary sewer services in Charlotte County to coordinate facility expansion and extension with local land development as detailed in the Infrastructure element and the Future Land Use element of this Plan. Ongoing procedures and communications mechanisms to enhance coordination with telephone service providers in extension and location of lines, and with Florida Power and Light in the location, extension and expansion of electrical generation transmission facilities in the County and the City shall be pursued.

ICE Policy 1.1.10: Coordination of Social Services

Charlotte County Department of Human Services shall foster cooperation and coordination between health and social service providers within the County in order to establish a clear direction that minimizes duplication of effort and maximizes all community resources.

ICE Policy 1.1.11: Coordination with Water Management Districts

The County shall coordinate with the appropriate Water Management Districts through their Regional Water Supply Plans in the development of the County's 10-year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.

ICE Objective 1.2: Level of Service (LOS)

To coordinate LOS standards for public facilities with the State, regional or adjacent counties and municipalities or local entities with operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities.

ICE Policy 1.2.1: LOS for Roads

The County shall coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO to maintain LOS standards for State roads consistent with the FDOT Five Year Improvement Program, in accordance with the Transportation element.

ICE Policy 1.2.2: Recreational Use of State Lands

The County shall seek the cooperation of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and similar authorities to maximize opportunities for appropriate recreational use of State lands consistent with environmental considerations.

ICE Policy 1.2.3: Water Management

The County shall fully cooperate with Southwest Florida Water Management District in the development and implementation of the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) program and the Save Our Rivers (SOR) Program in Charlotte County. Charlotte County will coordinate with the District's Regional Water Supply Authority (RWSA), the Southern Water Use Cautionary Area Recovery Strategy, and the Districts' Water Management Plans.

ICE Policy 1.2.4: Dredge Disposal Sites

The County shall coordinate with the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) and other State and Federal agencies as appropriate in the identification and designation of new dredge spoil disposal sites. If siting conflicts arise, the County will enlist the help of the Coastal Management Program of the Florida Coastal Zone Section.

ICE Policy 1.2.5: Conflict Resolution

The County shall address any conflicts that cannot be resolved locally between Charlotte County or Punta Gorda and any public agency seeking a dredge spoil disposal site through the dispute resolution process of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC).

ICE Policy 1.2.6: Permanent Dredge Spoil Disposal

The County shall coordinate with the West Coast Inland Navigation District in determining an appropriate site should the need for a new permanent dredge spoil disposal site be identified. If siting conflicts arise, then the County will enlist the help of the Coastal Management Program of the Florida Coastal Zone Section.

ICE Objective 1.3: Impacts of Development

To coordinate with adjacent local governments and regional planning agencies to ensure that impacts of development are addressed.

ICE Policy 1.3.1: Bordering Jurisdictions

The County shall inform adjacent local governments of proposed amendments to this Plan, including the Future Land Use Map and the Zoning Atlas, when the proposals are located within one-half mile of the jurisdictional boundaries of neighboring municipalities. County staff shall inform adjacent local governments of proposed changes beyond the one-half mile distance of jurisdictional boundaries when those proposed changes are deemed to have potential impacts on them.

ICE Policy 1.3.2: Reciprocation

The County shall request that adjacent local governments inform County staff of proposed amendments to their comprehensive plans, including the Future Land Use Map and the zoning atlas when such proposals are located within one-half mile of the jurisdictional boundary of the County.

ICE Policy 1.3.3: Developments of Regional Impact (DRI)

The County shall utilize the intergovernmental coordination process of the SWFRPC as outlined and updated in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan to:

1. Determine whether development proposals would have significant impacts on other local governments or State or regional resources or facilities and to develop remedies to mitigate the impacts; and
2. Determine whether development proposals in other jurisdictions would have significant impacts on Charlotte County's resources or facilities and to develop remedies to mitigate the impacts.

ICE Policy 1.3.4: Shared Costs

Future development in Charlotte County and other affected jurisdictions will pay the proportionate cost of joint infrastructure and services resulting from the impact of that development.

ICE Policy 1.3.5: DRI Mixed Use

The Future Land Use Map officially sets aside a DRI Mixed Use category for Development of Regional Impact (DRI) projects. Each project within the DRI Mixed Use area shall develop in accordance with a DRI development order, which is a written resolution adopted by the County Commissioners for the purpose of allowing and promoting growth and development to occur in a responsible manner compatible with the County's 5-Year Capital Improvement Program and the Capital Improvements element. The mix of land uses and allowed densities and intensities within a DRI that is approved shall be adopted into FLU Appendix VI: Developments of Regional Impact.

ICE Policy 1.3.6: Other Comprehensive Plans

The County shall consider the existing comprehensive plans of affected local governments during inter-jurisdictional review of development proposals and amendments.

ICE Policy 1.3.7: Aquatic Preserves

The County shall coordinate with other local governments, and regional, State, and Federal governments in the management of the Charlotte Harbor and Lemon Bay aquatic preserves consistent with the Natural Resources and the Coastal Planning elements.

ICE Policy 1.3.8: Point-Source Pollution

The County shall consider entering into agreements with surrounding counties as well as with regulatory agencies to ensure that local concerns are addressed during the permitting stages of potential point-source pollutant generators.

ICE Policy 1.3.9: Joint Participation

The County encourages adjacent local governments to participate in various planning decisions that will have direct effects upon their citizens. The County shall participate in planning decisions of other local governments. Planning decisions that may impact surrounding jurisdictions include, but are not limited to, roadway and stormwater management improvements, land use and zoning amendments, public facility sitings, and recreational facility development.